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SENATE RESOLUTION 121
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. C. DeLores Tucker
for her many valuable contributions to the
advancement and empowerment of African
Americans.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should honor those individuals who through their brilliance and humanitarian vision have elevated their community's thinking, and have created an innovative way of viewing the world; and

WHEREAS, the renowned Dr. C. DeLores Tucker is one such astounding woman who has distinguished herself as the convening founder and current National Chairperson of the National Political Congress of Black Women, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1984, the NPCBW is a non-partisan organization whose primary mission is to politically empower African American women; and

WHEREAS, this creative woman's talents are best demonstrated by the Akan Adinkra Symbol of Nsoroma(*n-soar-row-mah*) of Ghana, which symbolizes faith and the belief in

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patronage and a dependency on a supreme being; it is often used to describe a person of exemplary character; and

WHEREAS, this eminent woman has touched many lives through her many roles; she was the first African American woman, nationally, to hold the office of Secretary of State when she served in that position for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from 1971-77; and

WHEREAS, as Pennsylvania Secretary of State, Dr. Tucker was responsible for the Governor's appointment of the highest number of female judges and the appointment of the most women and minorities to boards and commissions in the history of the state; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tucker led Pennsylvania in becoming one of the first states to pass the Equal Rights Amendment; and

WHEREAS, renowned as a tireless community activist and fair-minded leader, Dr. Tucker was the first African American to serve as President of the National Federation of Democratic Women; and

WHEREAS, she is the founding president of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Association for Non-Violent Change, the founder and president of the Bethune-Du Bois Fund, Incorporated, which promotes the cultural development of African American youth through scholarships and educational programs; and

WHEREAS, she founded *Vital Issues: The Journal of African-American Speeches* and participated in the historic Selma-to-Montgomery March in 1965, prior to serving as a delegate to the White House Conference on Civil Rights; and

WHEREAS, C. DeLores Tucker is a soror of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Incorporated, having received her educational training at Temple University and The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, an ethical woman, Dr. Tucker was guided, loved, and supported through life by her parents, the late Reverend Whitfield Nottage and Mrs. Captilda Gardiner Nottage; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tucker strengthened the resolve of principled youth everywhere when she personally waged a national war on so-called "gangsta-rap" and the use of illicit language in music enjoyed by America's teenagers; and

WHEREAS, she is the recipient of two honorary degrees: two Doctor of Law degrees from Alabama's Morris College and Pennsylvania's Villa Maria College; she is recipient of the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of the District of Columbia, along with over 400 other awards and honors; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tucker has been named as one of *People Magazine's* "25 of the World's Most Intriguing People"; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable woman has found her reflection, life teacher, and friend in her husband, entrepreneur William L. Tucker; and

WHEREAS, her dedication to the mental, political and moral evolution of others is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor the splendid work of Dr. C. Delores Tucker, whose outstanding contributions to the empowerment of African Americans, and women everywhere have forever improved the political landscape of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.